

**Department of Environmental Conservation  
Response to Comments**

**For**

**PORT OF ANCHORAGE  
MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM**

**APDES Permit No. AKS052426**

**Public Noticed May 5, 2015 – June 5, 2015**

**June 17, 2015**



**Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation  
Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program  
555 Cordova Street  
Anchorage, AK 99501**

## **1 Summary of Facility / Permit**

The Port of Anchorage serves as the main port for southcentral Alaska. The commodities include petroleum, oil and lubricants; general cargo; automobiles; pipe; drilling muds; cement; and other freight. The Port municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) is a system consisting of 21 catch basins and seven outfalls to the tide lands of Cook Inlet and Knik Arm. The expected discharge consists of typical urban runoff (sediment, minor amounts of petroleum, some floatable debris). There is no estimate on the volume discharged. No mixing zone is proposed.

The first MS4 permit for the Port of Anchorage was issued by EPA as the NPDES authority as a Phase I permit and became effective March 3, 1995. On March 3, 2000 the permit was administratively extended by EPA, and has been in administrative extension since that date.

## **2 Opportunities for Public Participation**

The Department of Environmental Conservation proposed to issue an Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) wastewater discharge permit to Port of Anchorage. To ensure public, agency, and tribal and local government notification and opportunities for participation, the Department:

- identified the permit on the annual Permit Issuance Plan posted online at:  
<http://dec.alaska.gov/water/wwdp/index.htm>
- notified potentially affected tribes and local government(s) that the Department would be working on this permit via letter, fax and/or email
- posted a preliminary draft of the permit on-line for a 10-day applicant review April 3, 2015 and notified tribes, local government(s) and other agencies
- formally published public notice of the draft permit on May 5, 2015 in Alaska Dispatch News and posted the public notice on the Department's public notice web page
- sent email notifications via the APDES Program List Serve when the preliminary draft and draft permits were available for review

The Department did not received comments on the draft permit and supporting documents. The Department also requested comment from the Departments of Natural Resources (DNR) Fish and Game (DFG), the National Marine Fisheries Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

## **3 Final Permit**

The final permit was adopted by the Department on June 17, 2015. There were no changes from the public noticed permit.